



The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society's **EXCITER**

GET INVOLVED

- RARS General Membership meeting: Second Tuesday of the month.
- The RARS net meets every night except Saturday @ 8 p.m. on 146.640.
- The RARS Technical & Trader's net: Saturdays @ 8:00 PM on 146.64.
- RARS meets for a monthly dinner on the First Tuesday of each month.



PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

Interested in helping? Visit
<http://www.rars.org/public-service.php>

frequently for our 2016
ham public service
schedule.

RARS General Meeting

Topic: RARS Repeater Update and Selected
comments on the NC ARRL section

By Karl Bowman W4CHX

Date: February 9, 2016

Time: Meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Informal gathering and refreshments from 7-7:30 PM

Where: Ridge Road Baptist Church. 2011 Ridge Rd., Raleigh
New HAM / Elmer meeting, 6:00 p.m. before member meeting
Tadd Torborg, KA2DEW, Elmer Coordinator

President's Message

I hope everybody survived the snow and ice with minimal or no damage. I had a few limbs down but no damage. My power was off for about three hours on Friday night. Maybe an automatic standby generator is on the horizon. By the time you read this, maybe the groundhog will have predicted fair weather sooner rather than later.

As usual, Skywarn was on top of the storm

[Continued on page 3](#)

RARS Officers

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The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society, Inc. (RARS) was founded in 1969 and continues to serve and support the amateur radio community in the greater Triangle area. In 1999, the society incorporated a new RARS and obtained 501(c)(3) non-profit tax status.

The objectives of the club are to promote worldwide friendship through amateur radio; to be of public service by providing radio communications in times of disaster, emergency, or civic needs; to educate members in radio technique, and to provide training classes to assist in obtaining amateur radio licenses.

Anyone interested in amateur radio is eligible to apply for membership. Dues for regular licensed amateurs are \$18 per year (from July 1 through June 30). Additional immediate family members pay \$5 each per year. Dues for licensed amateurs older than 59 or younger than 16 are \$12 per year. Dues for non-licensed associate members are \$9 per year. Applications for membership may be obtained from the treasurer or on the RARS website (www.rars.org).

Exciter

The Exciter is the official newsletter of the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society. It appears each month as a PDF on the RARS website at www.rars.org. Members receive email notification when the latest version is available. Please provide your email address to the Treasurer.

The Exciter welcomes articles, advertisements, and other contributions. To submit a piece to the newsletter, please contact the Editor. The Editor reserves the right to edit any and all pieces. The submission deadline for each month's Exciter is the third Friday of the preceding month. All submissions must be final. Drafts are not accepted.

The views expressed in the Exciter are those of the individual authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor or RARS.

Tom Lewis, N4TL, editor (editor@rars.org)

For Your Information

RARS General Meeting

Date: **Second** Tuesday of each month

Location: Ridge Road Baptist Church 2011
Ridge Road Raleigh, NC, 27607

Time: People begin arriving at 7 p.m. The meeting officially begins at 7:30 p.m.

RARS Monthly Dinner

All members and guests are welcome to the monthly (first Tuesday) RARS Supper, 6:30PM, at the Golden Corral Restaurant, 6129 Glenwood Ave., Raleigh. Informal and Dutch, just bring your appetite and best rag to chew. 73, Chuck, K4HF

RARS Repeaters in Raleigh

146.640 and 444.525

Join us for the nightly RARS net at 8 p.m. on the 146.640 repeater. All hams holding a Technician class license or higher are invited to check in. We welcome both RARS and non-RARS members to the net.

There is a net Listing on the RARS website click here. <http://www.rars.org/nets.php>

VE Testing

The RARS VEs will accept walk-in testing in February, May, August and November at 5:30PM, prior to RARS membership meetings at Ridge Road Baptist Church; the RARSfest in April; the Cary Swapfest in July; the JARS-Fest in November; and following RARS license classes. Please bring a photo ID, your original and a copy of your current license, your \$14 exam fee, and any valid CSCEs that prove passing elements beyond that of your current license. Visit www.rars.org for more information.

President's Message continued

with their scheduled nets. Many thanks to those who offered their time as net control operators and spotter reports. Even with all the technology available to the National Weather Service there is no replacement for "boots on the ground" to determine more localized information on downed trees, flooding, and outages.

Hamfest season is officially here. Throughout the year there are several Hamfests within driving distance. RARSfest on April 2nd will be among the best in the area. Even with all the online activity, there is nothing like browsing the aisles of a Hamfest to experience what amateur radio is all about. They are also a good opportunity to meet all those people you may only know by voice and callsign. If you have a chance to attend one or more of these Hamfests, please do so. For RARS, as well as many other clubs, Hamfests are a major source of funding for the year.

73,

Dennis, NC4DK



January RARS meeting

Frank Weiss KY4W gave a entertaining and informative presentation on putting up a tower and antennas in 1981. The picture above is Frank giving the presentation. The picture below shows Frank and members of the RARS club that did the work.





More picture from the January
RARS meeting presentation by
Frank Weiss, KY4W



RARS February Birthdays

Sue	W2GHK	02/02
LOS	AF0AA	02/03
Selene	KG4RMT	02/03
Lillian	KC4AYH	02/04
Mattie Rose	KM4IFQ	02/05
Grady	KJ4RZU	02/05
Larry	N4LEW	02/07
Bill	KN4IX	02/08
Ash	KM4IFR	02/10
Cliff	KA7NSU	02/10
Dennis	AJ4HK	02/13
Tom	N4TL	02/13
Quentin	KM4MLZ	02/15
Dave	KK4ELT	02/16
Dick	WW4NC	02/16
Tyler	KM4KRU	02/16
Jim	KB2IYS	02/16
Don	NJ2E	02/18
Howard	N4KYW	02/19
Roger	AK4RS	02/20
Jim	WH6JQ	02/20
Joe	N1LVN	02/21
Steve	KE4COB	02/22
Charlie	WA3UTC	02/24
Joe	W4TTO	02/25
Jim	KM4JPV	02/25
Carl	W8WZ	02/26
Bob	WX4MMM	02/26
Hans	W2UF	02/27
Mary	KG4OQA	02/28
Kathleen	KM4CSF	02/28

RARS New Members

William Cox, Jr	KM4JPP
Jim Lind	N0FPP
Tom Hager	N4AUK

Hamfests

02/06/2016 | [Virginia State Convention \(Frostfest\)](#)

Location: Richmond, VA

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Richmond Amateur Telecommunications Society

Website: <http://www.frostfest.com>

03/12/2016 | [Charlotte Hamfest](#)

Location: Concord, NC

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society

Website: <http://www.charlottehamfest.org>

04/02/2016 | [North Carolina Section Convention \(Raleigh Hamfest\)](#)

Location: Raleigh, NC

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Raleigh Amateur Radio Society

Website: <http://rars.org/rarsfest>

<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/search>

Education Director

We have 41 students in the Technician Course that started Jan 16. The course is evenly split into two groups. Group A is made up of the students who would normally enroll - taught by Mike Murphy, WA4BPJ. Group B is made up of scouts and scouting related adults - taught by Curt Phillips, W4CP. We cancelled one session because of the snow so added a Saturday onto the scheduled end of the course. The General Course has been announced. It will start Feb 27 and is 4 sessions and will be taught by Mike. The Amateur Extra Course is scheduled to start Apr 16 and probably will be the only one this year. For more information, questions or to get on a course announcement list, contact Murray, K4MHM at : Education@RARS.org. There are pictures of the two groups on the next page.

Boy Scouts

We are planning to have a Youth Operated Station at RARSfest this year. Scouts will operate the station with RARS adult Control Operators. There will also be demonstration and hands-on experience with Morse Code and a display of BSA badges relative to Amateur Radio. The goal is to interest all youth, scout or not, in Amateur Radio. RARS adults who will be working with the scouts will have taken the BSA Youth Protection Training. We encourage RARSfest attendees to bring their youth to RARSfest this year. Youth ages 16 and younger get in free with an adult RARSfest ticket holder.

73 Murray, K4MHM

Antenna Farm

Copied from Google images





Current Technician course students group A



Current Technician course students group B

Jan 30, 2016 photos by Murray Merner, K4MHM

The Tar Heel Scanner/ SWL SIG group

The Tar Heel Scanner/SWL SIG group met on January 18th at Red Hot and Blue restaurant on Falls of Neuse Road in Raleigh. Thirteen people attended.

The topic of the meeting was a question and answer session on Uniden Home Patrol scanners and Radio Reference.com database organization. We also got an update about the area public service radio systems from Marshall Sherard, KE4ZNR. The group enjoyed the topics and the meeting adjourned at 9:00.

The next meeting will be held on February 15th at Red Hot and Blue. The meeting topic has yet to be decided.

Meetings are held on the third Monday of each month. We meet at 6:30 for dinner and the meeting begins at 7:30 and ends at 9:00. For more information and announcements about the upcoming meetings, see the Tar Heel Scanner / SWL SIG Yahoo group (<https://groups.yahoo.com/groups/tarheelscanner>).

73, Kelly, AE4FG

ARRL 2016 National Parks On The Air

Throughout 2016, Amateur Radio operators will be helping the National Park Service celebrate their 100th anniversary. Hams from across the country will activate NPS units, promote the National Park Service and showcase Amateur Radio to the public. When tuning across the bands you will hear some one stating they are activating a park for NPOTA. They will give out a four character park code. The goal is to work as many as possible during 2016. For information about the event go to this website [ARRL National Parks on the Air](#). Your editor made a list of all the codes and Hank, K4HM put them on the RARS website. They are at this location [ARRL 2016 NPOTA Codes](#). You can print it and then check off each park as you work them.

73 Tom, N4TL



General Class License Course

Raleigh Amateur Radio Society

RARS.org

Original Announcement Date: January 19, 2016

This four session course (Level 2) will be conducted by the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society. In order to be awarded a General Class license by the FCC, one must pass the Technician Class exam addition to the General Class exam.

When: Feb 27, Mar 5, 12, 19 start at 8:30a.m. and end around 1:00 p.m.

Where: Raleigh, NC. Specific location will be provided upon pre-registration.

Volunteer Instructor: Mike Murphy, WA4BPJ, has an Extra Class license and has been teaching since the 1970s and has conducted as many as 60 courses. In addition to this course, he also teaches the Amateur Extra courses.

Tuition: \$10.00 (payable at the first session)

Course Text: The required manual is the current edition of: The **ARRL Ham Radio License Manual - Level 2 General, 8th Edition** (ISBN: 978-1-625959-030-7 and is available online (i.e. ARRL, Amazon, etc.).

Examination: An optional examination is scheduled for the student's convenience in the afternoon of the last session. The exam is conducted by the RARS Volunteer Examiners. There is a separate fee.

Pre-Registration: E-mail me with your **phone number** and **call sign**. A registration form and other details will be e-mailed to you.

This course is also listed on the ARRL Website at: "Find a Class."

Next Course: Amateur Extra (7 sessions) is tentatively scheduled to start: Apr 16

Murray Merner, K4MHM

RARS Education Director

Education@rars.org

New HAM / Elmer meeting, 6:00 p.m.
before the member meeting

Tadd Torborg, KA2DEW, Elmer Coordinator

The New Hams meeting is held every month before the regular RARs meeting. We'll try to start by 6pm. We try to address topics in a manner that will be of help to hams in their first year of operation.

Tadd / KA2DEW
tadd@mac.com

List of attendees to the RARS New Operator meeting on January 12, 2016.

KA2DEW Tadd n Raleigh,
KM4BJV Jim n Raleigh
KN4IX Bill w Raleigh
W8WZ Carl Fuquay Varina
NC4DK Dennis ne Raleigh
KI4OTO Ken (stuff for sale)
AB4OZ Alan w Raleigh
KM4MMC Gary Zebulon
KM4MOy Rob n Raleigh

KM4PXV Sam n Raleigh
W2WNC Chuck n Raleigh
KE4VNC Billy Wendell
NC4FG Fin n Raleigh
AJ4HK Dennis n Raleigh
W4MY Marty Erwin
KM4NBO Keith Garner
KM4OGB Todd Cary
KM4OIZ Mark Zebulon



Antique Wireless Association Conference & Cryptologic Symposium March 24-25-26, 2016

The annual AWA Conference will be held in Charlotte again this year. This is a conference for people who are interested in vintage radio equipment. There will be many presentations, an auction, a book fair, an old radio contest and a flea market. There will also be a Cryptologic Symposium at the same time and hotel. This Cryptologic symposium has people from all over the world giving presentations on crypto machines and crypto methods. One registration will be used for both functions. For more information visit the following web sites.

<http://www.cc-awa.org/>

<http://antiqueradiocharlotte.homestead.com/Schedule.html>

<http://antiqueradiocharlotte.homestead.com/2016.html>

<http://www.cryptosymposium.com/>

North Carolina QSO Party

February 28, 2016 - 1000 EST to 2000 EST
Sponsored by the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society



The Carolina Weekend. [South Carolina QSO Party](http://www.rars.org/scqsoparty/) has moved to a new time and date! February 27, 2016, the day before ours. That means a whole weekend of Carolina fun for State QSO Party fans! For full information go to <http://www.rars.org/ncqsoparty/>

DX Information

South Georgia VP8SGI

The VP8SGI team are running 6 stations at the same time. Paul, N6PSE, describes South Georgia Is. as an amazing, very beautiful, windy and cold place. They are surrounded by Penguins and young Seal pups. Check our [website](#) for additional photos. The team will depart from South Georgia on February 8th. The Intrepid DX Group VP8 team send you their best wishes from Husvik Bay, South Georgia Islands. After the VP8STI final log is uploaded from South Georgia, Our manager N2OO, will turn on OQRS. QSL Updates will be posted on the VP8STI QRZ page. de EA5RM - VP8STI/VP8SGI Chief Pilot

The text above is information from two emails from Bernie McClenny, W3UR, Editor of: The Daily DX, The Weekly DX. Used with permission.

[Club Log link for VP8SGI](#) [Club Log link for VP8STI](#)

Future RARS 2016 Meeting Topics

3/8/2016	Awards, RARS Birthday Party (2/12/69) & RARSfest Update, Ian Hewitt, N0IAN
4/12/2016	Operating in the Bahamas (C6A) for the ARRL DX SSB 2015 by Rob Katz, K4OV

Titles, topics, and speakers subject to change.

More DX Information

Heard Island Expedition Newsletter _02_01

Dear Friend:

The current [Heard Island](http://www.heardisland.org/HD_documents/HD_Newsletters/HD_Newsletter_02_01.pdf) Expedition Newsletter (Vol. 2, No. 1) can be found at (http://www.heardisland.org/HD_documents/HD_Newsletters/HD_Newsletter_02_01.pdf). You are receiving this because you subscribed to it, or you made a donation to the expedition, or you are a team member or a corporate sponsor, or I just happen to know you and think you would like to have it. This issue goes to 1458 different people. In addition, Bernie W3UR, will distribute a notice of it with his Daily DX newsletter. There is no charge or obligation for this—we just want to help you make a QSO with VKØEK, or to collaborate in the scientific work.

Future Newsletters will be issued now and then, when we have something to say, probably every few weeks. If you missed a previous Newsletter and would like to have a copy, you can click on the cover image above.

The expedition is scheduled to begin in early March, 2016, and end in late April. You can see the current status of the project on the main website www.heardisland.org, and on the blogsite www.vk0ek.org.

I hope you like this Newsletter and find it useful. If you have suggestions, comments, subjects you would like to see addressed, etc., or wish to be removed from the distribution list, please write to me.

Bob

Organizer/Expedition Leader

++++
Cordell Expeditions
Dr. Robert W. Schmieder
4295 Walnut Blvd.
Walnut Creek, CA 94596 USA
++++



Working DX

Ever wonder when the best time of the day is to work some DX station? To find the answer use the online VOACAP propagation prediction program.

Have you tried the online version of the VOACAP propagation prediction program? It's easy to use, and quite versatile. You can drag the endpoints of any path around the map, and the polar display to the right of the map gives you the hour-by-hour outlook for each band. VOACAP uses the predicted smoothed sunspot number for the month to make the predictions, and that number is already incorporated in the predictions here. Check it out at <http://www.voacap.com/prediction.html>.

Copied from the ARRL Propagation Bulletin by K7RA

The K5P Dxpedition

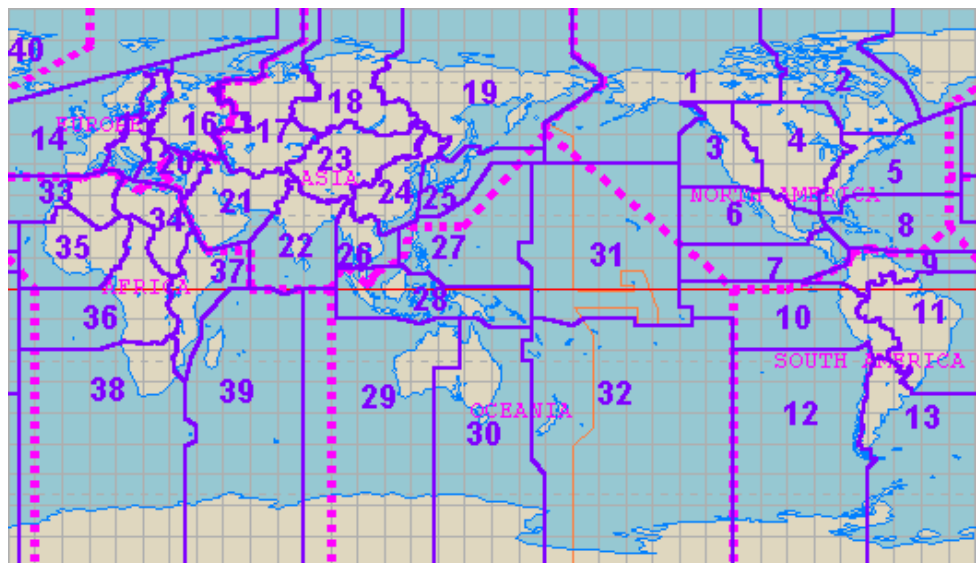
The hams who operated at Palmyra Atoll are back home. Dick W3OA and Lou N2TU are members of the Carolina DX Association. Both of them were on the Dxpedition. For more information on the operation go to this webpage.

<http://palmyra2016.org/>

There also is information on the K5P Facebook page.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/754733687971837/>

CQ
Zone
Map



Minutes

Raleigh Amateur Radio Society Board of Directors Meeting December 15, 2015

This meeting was canceled. Therefore there are no minutes.

Upcoming Contests

Contest Name	Start Date	End Date
CQ WPX RTTY	2016-02-13	2016-02-14
ARRL DX CW	2016-02-20	2016-02-21
CQ160 SSB	2016-02-26	2016-02-28
NA QSO Party - February RTTY	2016-02-27	2016-02-28
ARRL DX SSB	2016-03-05	2016-03-06
Russian Dx Contest	2016-03-19	2016-03-20
CQ WPX SSB	2016-03-26	2016-03-27
CQ WPX CW	2016-05-28	2016-05-29
ARRL June VHF	2016-06-11	2016-06-13



MINUTES

Raleigh Amateur Radio Society General Membership Meeting 12 January 2016

1. Call to order: Dennis NC4DK called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM. There were 51 members in attendance which constituted a quorum.
2. Introduction of guests: New Member Sam KE4PXZ and Guests- Dale (new call), Greg N/A, and Fred NC4FB.
3. Approval of minutes. The minutes of the general membership meeting of December 8, 2015 were approved as presented.
4. Treasurer's report (Greg KE4PAX): 383 members.
5. Reports and announcements from RARS board members and others:
 - a. Karl W4CHX: The Page Road tower acquired 2 new antennas at no charge. One hardline is in place and one more is needed. One repeater will crosslink to the 2 meter repeater on the highway patrol (fairgrounds) tower.
 - b. Karl W4CHX: Amateur Radio Parity Act – we are making progress – senate bill ready to be voted on - more letters may be needed. HR101 in the House is in hearings today-discussion followed
 - c. Chuck K4HF announced that George Richards WA4EKJ became Silent Key on December 22.
 - d. Education: 34 students registered for the latest Technician course, which starts January 16th.
6. Drawing: The following won the drawing: Al NC4AL, and David KB8V.
7. Tom N4TL handed out a survey on past presentations and how well they were liked, as well as soliciting ideas for future presentations.
8. Program: Frank, KY4W, gave an excellent talk "Tower Madness" about putting up his 98 foot tower and antennas back in 1978.
9. Adjournment: the meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:10 PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Bob NC1X
RARS Secretary

RARS Presentation Survey

During the January RARS meeting a survey was taken to find out what members are interested in for presentations. The survey for the past presentations shows that most members are interested in the presentations that were given. Below is the results for possible future presentations. There were also a lot of good write in suggestions. 73 Tom, N4TL

Possible future presentations, which ones would be boring or interesting? 1 boring, 5 very interesting	1+2	3	4+5
A description of a trip to C6A for the ARRL DX SSB 2015 contest with pictures	5	8	13
About Hiram Percy Maxim, W1AW	5	10	12
All about the WWII Enigma Machine	2	8	22
Antenna modeling	0	4	31
Antenna Tuners	0	6	30
Arduino introduction and how it can be used in amateur radio	2	3	26
ARRL update	4	12	11
Collins 30L1 linear amplifier	7	14	7
De-mystifying the Smith Chart	1	8	21
Information on Chinese Radios , Boafeng, Wouxun, TYT, Anytone and Leixen.	4	7	22
Introduction to model airplane remote control	27	10	11
More on software defined radios	3	5	27
Multi/Multi contest station operated remotely	7	14	5
Raspberry Pi introduction and how it can be used in amateur radio	2	3	30
Status of the RARS repeaters.	1	9	20
The United States of America Counties (USA-CA) Award There are 3077 Counties in the USA.	12	10	5
Vintage Stereo tube receivers.	5	10	17
Vintage Vacuum Tubes	4	8	19
Which is the best antenna to use for your station and interests	0	4	33
Working DX and how to get through a pile up	2	8	19
Working DX on 160 meters	7	6	17
K1N Navassa Island Dxpedition video*	5	10	14
Dayton Hamvention DX Forum for K1N Navassa island.*	7	7	11

* only one of these two K1N videos would be shown
Greater then 10 highlighted

RARS Classifieds

Copied from www.rars.org/classifieds.php

The items below were listed within the last 30 days on the RARS website.

Several Items for sell

Posted January 27th, 2016 by: W4ZWA

Contact: zackalexander@w4zwa.com

Motorola CP200d 16 Channel DMR UHF HT with Charger \$120.00

YAESU FT-8900R QUAD Band Mobile with separation kit \$275.00

Timewave PK-96USB Packet TNC \$175.00

Will meet locally or can ship if needed, paypal or cash

BUNDLE: (\$850) YAESU FT-857 w/ ATAS-120 HF Mobile Antenna, 2M/70CM Antenna & Duplexer

Posted January 16th, 2016 by: K1DUG

Contact: admin@dougware.net

I bought this radio and used it for a little over a year. Once I bought a new car, there was nowhere to mount an HF antenna. It's been sitting in a box for about a year. It works great!

Everything shown in included!

- * Yaesu FT-857 in good cosmetic and working condition w/ microphone.

This radio has the MARS modification, allowing transmit outside the HAM bands. You will be required to follow all applicable FCC laws regarding it's use. You will also need an appropriate power cable and/or power supply.

- * Yaesu ATAS-120 Active Tuning Mobile Antenna (for HF and 2M/70CM operation)

RARS Classifieds continued

This antenna is good for 70CM, 2M, and 6M-40M and is in good working condition

* Comet CSB-750A Dual Band 2M/70CM Mobile Antenna

This antenna is good for 70CM, 2M, and is in good working condition

* Diamond MX62M Duplexer

Connects the UHF/VHF and HF connectors to the single ATAS-120 antenna and is in good working condition

* 2 K400 Heavy Duty Trunk Mounts

* Remote Faceplate Mount and Extension Connector for the Microphone

It was removed from service in working condition and has been stored inside my home for about a year. I'm in the process of buying a house and would rather house additional cash than a radio setting in a box.

I can meet you anywhere within 30 minutes of Raleigh.

Doug, K1DUG, 919-901-0705 (You'll probably need to leave a message)

admin@dougware.net

wanted! a nice 2 meter/440 handheld

Posted January 13th, 2016 by: KM4PXV

Contact: sam.teague01@gmail.com

hello gang,

i'm searching for a nice handheld (not a Baofeng) I would like 2 meter/440, I would prefer a Yaesu Kenwood or Icom, but anything that is 5 watts or up.

I know this is a long shot, but I would like to spend around 50-60 dollars on it. Just looking for something better than a Baofeng

73, KM4PXV

RARS Classifieds continued

Misc. Ham Radio Gear

Posted January 10th, 2016 by: K4HF

Contact: k4hf@arrl.net

Heath SB 104A 100W 80-10 Meter Transceiver w/matching P. Supply, Manual and mike. Excellent Condx - \$275.

Heath HR1680 80 - 10 Meter Coverage Rcvr with HS1661 Spkr, Excellent - \$95.

Heath HW-16 50W 80, 40 & 15 Meters, Crystal Controlled Transceiver working condition, w/manual - \$50.

For Field Day, A Quest 12' x 12' Screen Room, as new - \$65.

And a Coleman 1800W portable generator, little use - \$160.

Two Vibroplex Original Deluxe bugs (semi-automatic keys) new, priced to move, call.

Contact me by E Mail or (919)872-6555, Thanks, Chuck

For sale DX Engineering speech processor for a Collins KWM-2A

Posted February 2nd, 2016 by: N4TL

Contact: n4tl2@yahoo.com

For sale DX Engineering speech processor for a Collins KWM-2A. Model number LC-1-KWM. Included is a copy of the two page manual.
\$200.00. Contact me by email or call 919-870-9342.